

ANNUAL MINUTES

—OF THE—

Baltimore Annual Conference,

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HELD AT

Salem, Roanoke County, Va.,

March 9th, 1865.

Minutes of Conference.

FIRST DAY.

THURSDAY, March 9th, 1865.

The Baltimore Annual Conference commenced its session in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Salem, Roanoke County, Va., Thursday morning, March 9th, at 9 o'clock.

On motion, S. Regester was elected President of the Conference.

Religious services were conducted by the President, with singing and reading of the Scriptures, and prayer led by John S. Martin.

On motion, J. S. Martin was elected Secretary.

The Roll was called.

On motion, the following Standing Committees were appointed, composed of one member from each Presiding Elder's District :

Committee on Necessitous Cases—J. P. Etchison, J. J. Engle, J. W. Ewan, J. A. H. Moore.

Committee on Bible Cause—J. F. Liggett, E. H. Jones, P. S. E. Sixeas, J. M. Grandin.

Committee on Seminaries—L. R. Jones, J. J. Engle, P. H. Whisner, A. P. Boude.

Committee on Temperance—G. G. Brooke, E. H. Jones, L. D. Nixon, L. Lenz.

Committee on Sunday Schools—C. A. Joyce, J. J. Engle, L. Butt, A. P. Boude.

Committee on Tract Cause—D. Ball, J. J. Engle, P. S. E. Sixeas, J. M. Grandin.

Committee on Public Worship—S. Regester, J. F. Liggett.

BOARD OF STEWARDS.

The Board of Stewards was completed by substituting L. R. Jones for W. R. Stringer, J. A. H. Moore in the place of

J. C. Dice, T. M. Carson in the place of J. W. Wolff, and P. B. Smith in the place of J. Landstreet.

The following Lay Stewards were elected to represent the several Districts :

Roanoke District—A. L. Pitzer, David Dyerle, Z. Boon, Jos. Rayburn.

COMMITTEES OF EXAMINATION.

Committee of First Year was completed by substituting J. J. Engle for G. R. Jefferson, P. S. E. Sixeas in place of P. H. Whisner.

Committee of Second Year was completed by substituting the name of A. P. Boude for R. Smith, P. B. Smith for W. D. Rippetoe.

Committee of Fourth Year—J. M. Grandin was placed instead of S. Rodgers, G. G. Brooke instead of W. S. Baird, J. W. Ewan instead of J. C. Dice.

BISHOP EARLY.

Conference, by a unanimous vote, Resolved, That the Secretary of the Conference be instructed to telegraph to Bishop Early, of the M. E. Church, South, to visit the Conference during its session and administer ordination to the Deacons and Elders elect.

J. C. GRANBERY.

On motion, Conference ordered that the Secretary be directed to telegraph to Rev. J. C. Granbery, Fraternal Messenger from the Virginia Conference, and invite him to visit the Conference now in session.

FAST DAY.

Conference determined to observe to-morrow as a day of fasting, appointed by the President of the Confederate States ; that the arrangements of the services for the occasion be left with the Committee on Public Worship.

J. W. BENNETT.

Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, was set apart for the appeal of J. W. Bennett.

Conference adjourned, with singing and prayer, to meet Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY, March 11th, 1865.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

Religious exercises were conducted by L. D. Nixon.

The Roll was called.

The Minutes of Thursday morning were read and approved.

The Eleventh Question of the General Minutes was called, viz :

Question—Were all the Preachers' characters examined ? And the character of J. S. Martin, J. J. Engle, W. R. Stringer, H. E. Gaver, E. H. Jones, W. D. Rippetoe, T. Hildebrand, J. N. Gray and J. P. Hyde, were examined and passed.

J. LEEF.

On motion, Johnzey Leef was located by the Conference.

The characters of J. S. Gardner, J. W. Ewan, M. May, J. E. Wasson, L. D. Nixon, J. P. Chittum, P. S. E. Sixeas, were examined and passed.

Rev. Bros. Blanton and Pitzer, of the Presbyterian Church, and Bro. Crenshaw, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, were severally introduced to the Conference, and on motion, they were admitted to seats within the Bar of the Conference.

Conference proceeded to the order of the day, viz. : The appeal of J. W. Bennett, from the decision of the last Annual Conference, to this body as a General Conference.

On motion, the appeal was entertained by the Conference. Statements were made that new and important testimony, favorable to Bro. Bennett, could be adduced; and on motion, the case of J. W. Bennett was referred back to the Presiding Elder, for a new trial.

J. W. F. Graham having removed during the past year, the following preamble and resolutions were, on motion, adopted :

Whereas, Misconception may arise as to the purpose and effect of the action of the Conference in omitting from its roll the name of J. W. F. Graham and others, therefore,

1. Resolved, That by said action we simply intended to obtain as correct a list as possible of those who are now so situated as to be able to look to us for appointments.

2. That the action of this Conference relative to brethren who have gone beyond our bounds, that we do not intend thereby to declare they are no longer members of the body, unless they shall connect themselves with some other body, or whereby some acts of their own signify that they are not in sympathy with this body.

3. That, from motives of prudence toward brethren thus removing, the Roll of this Conference comprises only the names of the brethren within our bounds who have work among us.

4. That brethren who have thus removed and who have not connected themselves with any other body, are entitled at any future time to present their claims of membership and, if just, can be admitted.

Conference adjourned by singing and prayer.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment.

Religious Exercises were conducted by L. R. Jones.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

The Third Question of the General Minutes was called, viz. :

Question—Who are admitted into full connection ?

And L. C. Miller, E. H. Jones and W. R. McNeer, having been examined by the President before the Conference and having given satisfactory evidence of their attention to the studies prescribed in the Discipline, their characters were severally passed, and on motion, they were admitted into full connection and elected to Deacon's Orders.

The characters of M. G. Balthis, David Harris, A. A. P. Neel, were examined and passed; and, on motion, there were continued on trial.

The second Question of the General Minutes was called, viz :

Question—Who remain on trial ? And the characters of Wm. A. McDonald, A. Weller, J. Crickenberger, R. N. Pool, J. T. Maxwell and C. L. Dameron were examined and passed.

C. T. DILLARD.

The name of C. T. Dillard was called and it was stated that he had been expelled from the Church under a charge of immorality, whereupon C. T. Dillard appealed from the decision by which he was expelled. P. S. E. Sixeas stated the

grounds of his appeal and moved that it be entertained, and it was granted.

The appeal under consideration was on motion laid on the table for the present.

The Fifth Question of General Minutes was called, viz.:

Question—Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year ?

The characters of A. Q. Flaherty, L. W. Haslup, Leo. Butt, S. F. Butt, C. A. Joyce and P. H. Whisner, were examined and passed, and, on motion, they were elected to Elder's Orders.

Conference proceeded to consider the appeal of C. T. Dillard, from the decision of the Monroe Quarterly Conference. The grounds of the appeal were stated, the testimony as used before the Quarterly Conference was read by the Secretary. The appellant through his counsel, P. S. E. Sixeas, and in person, addressed the Conference. J. S. Gardner replied in behalf of the Quarterly Conference.

The Secretary received a dispatch from Bishop Early consenting to visit the Conference on to-morrow and administer ordination.

Conference adjourned, with singing doxology and benediction, to meet Monday morning at 8½ o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

MONDAY March 13th, 1865.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. P. Etchison.

The Journal of Saturday afternoon was read and approved.

The Eleventh Question of General Minutes was resumed, and the characters of S. Regester, J. F. Liggett, F. C. Tebbs and J. P. Etchison were examined and passed.

On motion, Leopold Lenz was appointed to proceed and collect together the members of the Conference who are absent.

M MAY.

The character of M. May was examined, and it appeared he had not attended particularly to any work assigned him,

whereupon, the Conference, on motion, located M. May without his consent.

The characters of E. R. Veitch, J. C. Dice, R. Smith, J. A. H. Moore, G. R. Jefferson, A. P. Boude, J. E. Armstrong, R. R. S. Hough, L. Lenz and Wm. S. Baird, were examined and passed.

No Representative of the Loudoun and Winchester Districts appearing before the Conference, and in absence of any particular information relative to the work in those Districts, no formal examination was taken.

D. W. ARNOLD.

The name of D. W. Arnold was called. It was stated that during the past year D. W. Arnold had removed to Georgia, whereupon the Conference, on motion, determined that the same action be taken in his case as in the case of J. W. F. Graham.

The characters of G. G. Brooke and J. Landstreet were examined and passed.

C. T. DILLARD.

Conference resumed the consideration of the appeal of C. T. Dillard. On motion, C. T. Dillard was permitted to be heard again in justification of his appeal.

Pending the decision, Bishop Early of the M. E. Church, South, appeared and was introduced to the Conference. The Bishop addressed the Conference, after which Leo. Butt, L. C. Miller, E. H. Jones and W. R. McNeer, were ordained by request of Conference, to the office and order of Deacons in the Church.

Conference proceeded in the call for collections for the Missionary Society, also for the Necessitous Cases.

Conference adjourned with the Benediction pronounced by Bishop Early.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. J. Engle.

The Journal of this morning was read and approved.

The Eleventh Question of General Minutes was resumed,

and the characters of J. M. Grandin, S. Rodgers, P. B. Smith, T. M. Carson, D. Ball, were examined and passed.

The Second Question of General Minutes was resumed, viz:

Question—Who remain on trial? And the characters of G. H. Zimmerman and J. T. Maxwell, were examined and passed, and they were continued on trial.

C. F. LINTHICUM.

The death of C. F. Linthicum was appropriately referred to by Bro. A. L. Pitzer and also by J. M. Grandin.

C. T. DILLARD.

The case of C. T. Dillard appealing from the decision of the Monroe Quarterly Conference was taken up.

On motion of J. S. Gardner, the decision of the Quarterly Conference in the case of C. T. Dillard was reversed.

The Seventh Question of General Minutes was called, viz:

Question—Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?

And the characters of J. H. March, E. G. Jamison and Jos. H. Temple, were examined and passed, and their relations were continued.

The Eighth Question of General Minutes was called, viz.:

Question—Who are the Superannuated Preachers?

And the characters of N. Wilson, D. Trout and J. W. Kelly were examined, passed, and their relations were continued.

C. T. DILLARD.

On motion, C. T. Dillard was discontinued from the traveling Conference.

BISHOP EARLY.

It was announced that Bishop Early, of the M. E. Church, South, would preach in the Lutheran Church this evening and ordain the candidates elected to Elder's Orders.

Conference adjourned with the Benediction, pronounced by Bishop Early, to meet to-morrow morning.

FOURTH DAY.

TUESDAY, March 14th, 1865.

Conference met according to adjournment. President in the Chair.

Religious exercises by F. C. Tebbs.

Journal of yesterday afternoon read and approved.

The report of Committee on Seminaries was presented, read, and on motion, adopted.

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools was presented, read, and on motion, adopted.

Report of Committee on Temperance was presented, read, and on motion, laid on the table for the present.

A resolution was offered which proposed to readopt the resolution of the Churchville Conference in relation to brethren being continued longer than the disciplinary terms, and on motion, to take the question without further debate, the resolutions was lost.

Resolutions were passed expressing the satisfaction and pleasure of the Conference at the visit of Bishop Early.

On motion, Conference adjourned with Benediction to meet to-morrow morning, 8½ o'clock.

FIFTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, March 15th, 1865.

Conference met, pursuant to adjournment. President in the Chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by P. B. Smith.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Conference, on motion, resolved itself into a Missionary Society.

Conference, on motion, resumed deliberations.

The Committee on the Tract Cause presented its report, which was read, and on motion, was adopted.

Conference proceeded to fix the place of next session. Blacksburg, Salem and Collierstown were severally placed in nomination. The vote was taken and decided in favor of Blacksburg by unanimous vote.

On motion, a copy of the Minutes of this Conference were permitted to be taken from the Journal for the use of the Presiding Elders of the several districts.

The Fourth Question of the General Minutes was called, viz:

Question—Who are the deacons? And the characters of T. Briley, J. N. Gray, W. Hedges and J. L. Snyder, were examined and passed.

J. F. BEAN.

The character of J. F. Bean was examined and passed, and a supernumerary relation was assigned him.

LIST OF DEACONS.

Bishop Early, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, reports to the Secretary the names of the following brethren ordained to the office of Deacon:

C. A. Joyce, J. P. Hyde and P. H. Whisner, ordained at Lynchburg, Va., November 21st, 1864.

L. R. Jones and A. Q. Flaherty, ordained at Bristol, Va., October 23rd, 1864.

E. H. Jones, L. C. Miller, W. R. McNeer and Leo. Butt, ordained at Salem, Va., March 13th, 1865.

LIST OF ELDERS

Reported by Bishop Early, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, ordained by him:

J. P. Hyde, at Lynchburg, Va., November 21st, 1864.

A. P. Boude, L. Lenz, A. Q. Flaherty, Leo Butt, S. F. Butt, C. A. Joyce and J. A. H. Moore, at Salem, Va., March 13th, 1865.

L. R. Jones, at Bristol, October 23rd, 1864.

On motion of J. M. Grandin, Conference determined to reconsider the vote taken on the paper offered by F. C. Tebbs, in violation to the resolutions adopted at the Churchville Conference:

Resolved, By the Baltimore Conference, in Conference assembled, that the appointing power of this Conference in stationing the preachers, the Presiding Elders recommending, it is expected, and is hereby required, to be governed by the above mentioned exigencies.

The remaining resolutions of the afore-named paper were then adopted.

The Report on Temperance was then taken up, and on motion, adopted.

LAW QUESTION.

The Chair presented the following paper, in answer to the Law Question, as presented by F. C. Tebbs :

1. Drunkenness is an act of gross immorality, a crime expressly forbidden in the word of God, sufficient to exclude a person from the Kingdom of Grace and Glory.

2. In the case of buying, selling, or drinking spirituous liquors, the order is prescribed in Discipline, Part II, Chapter X, Sec. 4-4, page 98.

3. In the case of the perpetration of *one* offence there should appear on the part of the offender no signs of penitence but a disposition to repeat the act should opportunity arise, or should there be an expression of justification of the offence, it will be regarded as sufficient cause for arraignment before the Church.

4. In all proceedings in relation to the above cases, great prudence will be required on the part of the administrator,—yet firmness and promptness in vindicating the purity of the Church.

Concurred in by
J. S. GARDNER,
J. S. MARTIN.

Signed, S. REGESTER.

The Report of the Committee on the Tract Cause was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted.

BIBLE CAUSE.

The Report of the Committee on the Bible Cause was presented and read, and on motion, it was adopted.

STEWARDS' REPORT.

The Report of the Stewards was presented and adopted.

Conference resolved when it adjourn, it adjourn to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

Conference adjourned with the Benediction, pronounced by A. P. Boude, to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the Chair.

Religious services were conducted by J. M. Grandin.

The journal of the morning session was read and approved.

The Report of the Missionary monies collected at the Conference was presented by J. P. Etchison, which was, on motion, adopted.

The Stewards distributed the amounts for Necessitous Cases.

S. Register was elected Fraternal Messenger to the Virginia Conference ; J. S. Gardner, Alternate.

D. Ball was elected Fraternal Messenger to the Holston Conference ; T. M. Carson, Alternate.

D. Ball was granted permission to take collections in behalf of his Mission to the army during the present year.

Committees of Examination were announced.

Stewards were elected.

Executive Committee of Home Missionary Society was announced.

A vote of thanks was extended to citizens of Salem.

The Appointments were announced.

On motion, Conference adjourned by singing Doxology, and prayer by J. S. Gardner.

COMMITTEES OF EXAMINATION.

1st Year—P. H. Whisner, L. R. Jones, G. R. Jefferson.

2nd Year—J. J. Engle, W. H. Richey, W. R. Stringer.

3rd Year—J. P. Etchison, F. C. Tebbs, A. P. Boude.

4th Year—S. Rodgers, H. A. Gaver, J. C. Dice.

TRUSTEES OF WESLEYAN FEMALE INSTITUTE.

E. R. Veitch, J. C. Dice, G. G. Brooke, F. C. Tebbs, R. Smith.

VISITORS TO WESLEYAN FEMALE INSTITUTE.

J. E. Armstrong, T. M. Carson.

COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS.

S. Rodgers, P. H. Whisner, T. M. Carson.

CONFERENCE STEWARDS.

J. W. Etchison, W. D. Rippetoe, P. S. E. Sixeas, T. Briley, A. P. Boude, J. W. Wolff.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Clerical—A. P. Boude, F. C. Tebbs.

Lay—Arch. D. Trotter, A. Buhrman, J. Beard.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We are as much as ever convinced of the necessity of reaffirming our long established rules on the subject of the improper use of intoxicating liquors.

1st. Resolved, That we will faithfully adhere to the principles which have hitherto governed us as a body of ministers and characterized our Church on the subject of Temperance.

2nd. Resolved, That in our public and private intercourse among our people, that we will, by precept and example, discountenance the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

3rd. Resolved, That our preachers be required to preach or lecture, frequently, on the subject of Temperance, form societies, and adopt such plans as shall best promote the interests of the cause.

4th. Resolved, That we consider the use of strong drinks among our beloved soldiers and the pernicious example of many of our officers and men in authority, as most disastrous to the cause of our civil liberties and good morals.

5th. Resolved, That we regret to see, even in these calamitous times of war, that in many minds avarice has become the ruling spirit; the fruits of the earth are being manufactured into alcoholic drinks, for the purposes of gain, and this nefarious traffic is being protected by members of the Church. We avow our unswerving purpose to bring to bear the law as found in the book of Discipline, so far as it reaches such cases, and that the traffic for gain receives our unqualified disapprobation, to whomsoever it may apply.

L. D. NIXON,
E. H. JONES,
L. LENZ,
Committee.

APPOINTMENTS

Roanoke District, S. Regester, P. E.—Salem, J. F. Liggett and L. C. Miller; Christiansburg, F. C. Tebbs; Montgomery, To be supplied; Blacksburg, L. R. Jones; Jacksonville, S. F. Butt; Newport, A. Q. Flaherty; Roanoke, W. A. McDonald, J. F. Bean, sup.; Fincastle, J. P. Etchison, E. G. Jamison, sup.; Craig, To be supplied.

South Branch District, S. H. Griffith, P. E.—Franklin, one to be supplied, J. Crickenberger, J. H. Temple, sup.; Moorefield, J. Beatty; South Branch, O. P. Wirgman; North River, S. Smith; New Creek, H. Hoffman; Monterey, S. B. Dolly and J. L. Snyder; Highland, To be supplied; Warm Springs, T. Briley.

Rockingham District, E. R. Veitch, P. E.—Staunton, J. C. Dice; Mt. Sidney, R. Smith; Rockingham, A. P. Boude; East Rockingham, J. P. Hyde; Bridgewater, G. R. Jefferson and C. L. Damaron; New Market, A. Weller; Woodstock, J. E. Armstrong; Front Royal, R. R. S. Hough; Luray, L. Lenz. Wesleyan Female Institute, W. S. Baird, Principal, and member of Staunton Quarterly Conference.

Lexington District, J. S. Martin, P. E.—Rockbridge, J. J. Engle; Fairfield, W. R. Stringer; Augusta, H. A. Gaver and E. H. Jones; Churchville, T. Hildebrand and J. N. Gray; West Augusta, W. D. Rippetoe; Wesley Chapel and Bethel, J. M. Grandin.

Lewisburg District, J. S. Gardner, P. E.—Lewisburg, P. H. Whisner; Frankford, L. D. Nixon, one to be supplied; White Sulphur, L. Butt; Blue Sulphur, J. C. Wasson; Clintonville, To be supplied; Levelton, P. S. E. Sixeas, one to be supplied; Green Bank, W. R. McNeer; Monroe, J. W. Ewan and J. A. H. Moore; Peterstown, A. A. P. Neel, one to be supplied; Gap Mills, J. P. Chittum; Covington, C. A. Joyce.

Winchester District, W. G. Eggleston, P. E.—Winchester, —————; Winchester Circuit, J. W. Wolff and E. F. Heterick; Berryville, W. Hedges; Berkeley, J. W. Tongue;

Jefferson, I. Gibson and J. H. March, sup. ; Shepherdstown, E. L. Kregelo ; Springfield, C. L. Torreyson ; Wardensville, D. Harris ; Hillsboro, J. H. Waugh and B. Hough ; Shannondale, J. H. Wolff.

Loudoun District, S. S. Roszel, P. E.—Loudoun, F. H. Richey and A. Robey ; Leesburg, Warrenton, Fairfax, East Fairfax, Fredericksburg, Stafford and Rehobeth—To be supplied.

W. G. Coe, left without appointment, at his own request.

N. Wilson, D. Trout and J. W. Kelly, Superannuated Preachers.

G. G. Brooke, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Covington Quarterly Conference.

D. Ball, Missionary to C. S. A., and member of Salem Quarterly Conference.

J. Landstreet, Tract Agent and Missionary to C. S. A., and member of Loudoun Quarterly Conference.

T. M. Carson, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Winchester Quarterly Conference.

S. Rodgers, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Lewisburg Quarterly Conference.

P. B. Smith Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Blacksburg Quarterly Conference.

M. G. Balthis, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Winchester Quarterly Conference.

G. H. Zimmerman, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Woodstock Quarterly Conference.

J. T. Maxwell, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of New Market Quarterly Conference.

R. N. Pool, Chaplain C. S. A., and member of Bridgewater Quarterly Conference.

L. W. Haslup.